

Warren SENTINEL

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F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming

Dec. 19, 2003



Photo by 2nd Lt. Nicole Walters

OPJ, Santa Bring Joy to Community

Airman Tessa Cubbon
Public Affairs

After assisting children from the Cheyenne community with their holiday wishes, the Operation Provide Joy campaign has been deemed a great success. The operation which was executed Saturday, netted approximately 250 volunteers and helped 73 underprivileged children chosen by the Red Cross. The volunteers and the Officers Spouses' Club bought and wrapped more than 400 gifts for the children. Each child received a gift, which included a sports set, a walkie-talkie set, an AM/FM radio, a slinky and a light bright, with instructions not to open until Christmas. Each child received six gifts in their package.

"It was a huge success for the fourth annual Operation Provide Joy," said 1st Lt. Robert A. Hershner, 90th Missile Maintenance Squadron.

It's Your Turn!
Sentinel Survey
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Looking Back at 2003



Photo by Airman Tessa Cubbon

Staff Sgt. Sandra Nunes, 90th Medical Support Squadron Pharmacy Logistics NCOIC, hangs tinsel on one of the two 90th Medical Group trees before the 90th Space Wing holiday party Dec. 12 at the Trail's End Club. 'Best in Show' went to the 90th Space Wing which also was awarded 'Most Patriotic.' The rustic themed holiday party included deep fried turkey and music by Bayou Folk.



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
90TH SPACE WING (AFSPC)

12 Dec 03

Dear Treasured Friends and Neighbors

The holiday season is a perfect time to pause and reflect upon the many blessings we have in our lives. It is also a time to remember our families, friends, and neighbors who enrich our lives every day. On behalf of the 90th Space Wing, I'd like to say thank you for all of your support to the men and women of F. E. Warren Air Force Base.

We truly appreciate your unfaltering dedication to our active duty airmen, civilians, and family members. On Veteran's Day, you recognized those that have served their country and continue to serve today. Whether it has been bringing holiday treats to our troops in the field, fostering community and business relations, participating in Fort D. A. Russell Days, or hosting numerous events such as the Santa Maria Barbeque, you've been there for us.

Your support is critical to our ability to accomplish the mission. You continue to enrich our lives every day, continuing a community tradition established over 100 years ago.

From our families to yours, thanks for all you do, and have a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely

EVAN J. HOAPILI, Colonel, USAF
Commander

GUARDIANS OF THE HIGH FRONTIER

Warren
SENTINEL

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Space Command CC Sends Holiday Wishes

Gen. Lance Lord
Air Force Space
Command commander

PETERSON AIR
FORCE BASE, Colo. - As
another year comes to an
end, Beccy and I want to
wish the men and women of
Air Force Space Command
a happy holiday season.

This holiday season, take
a moment to reflect on the
value of the gift of service
you bestow to every man,
woman and child in
America and around the
world. America thanks you
for preserving the precious
gift of freedom, both at
home and abroad.
Your selfless dedication,

courage, commitment and
service, along with the sol-
diers, sailors, Marines,
Coast Guardsmen and De-
partment of Defense civil-
ians, make a real difference,
and I am proud to serve
with each and every one of
you.
This is an exciting time
to be part of Air Force Space

Command! We've shown
the world, this year more
than ever, what space forces
bring to the fight. Space is
an essential element in the
way the United States con-
ducts military operations
around the globe.

See CC, Page 4

BRIEFS

Klotz Selected to Command Twentieth Air Force

Brig. Gen. Frank Klotz took command of the 20th Air Force in a change of command ceremony at Aragonne Parade Field.

Klotz, 20th Air Force's seventh commander since its reactivation, reports to Air Force Space Command as the commander of 20th Air Force and United States Strategic Command as the nation's Intercontinental Ballistic Missile Task Force commander. He's responsible for the day-to-day maintenance and operation of the nation's deterrent ICBM force, comprised of three space wings with more than 11,000 assigned members and provides on-alert ICBMs to USSTRATCOM.

Hoapili Selected to Command Mighty Ninety

Col. Evan Hoapili took command of the 90th Space Wing in a change of command ceremony at Aragonne Parade Field.

He directs the wing's operation, maintenance and support of Warren's people and equipment including 150 Minuteman III and 50 Peacekeeper intercontinental ballistic missiles deployed over a 12,600 square mile area covering three states, southeast Wyoming, western Nebraska and northern Colorado.

MAF Thanksgiving Meal Successful

A total of 303 meals were served at area Missile Alert Facilities this Thanksgiving and the task was made a little easier by base organizations. The Military Affairs Committee donated \$500 toward the cost of the meals, Security Forces Top 4 provided turkeys and hams while the 90th Operations Group covered the remaining cost.

Maintainers' Teamwork Saves Lives

Innovative Thinking Turns Near Disaster Into Success

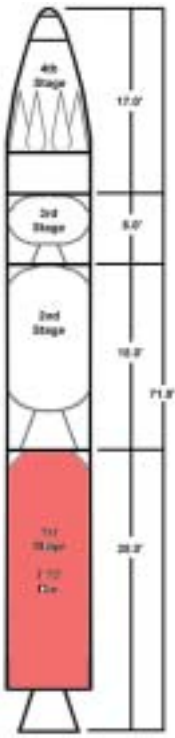
1st Lt. Matthew Bates
Public Affairs

While removing a final stage of a Peacekeeper intercontinental ballistic missile Aug. 26, missile maintainers here proved that flexibility in the face of adversity is a prominent key to air and space power.

During a routine phase of the deactivation of the ICBM, a malfunctioning hoist prevented the stage I portion from being removed from Launch Facility P-07. With no time to waste, these warriors had to make the right decisions and act immediately to avoid a potentially hazardous, even deadly, scenario.

"When you're responsible for maintaining the world's most powerful combat weapon, there's no room for improvisation," said Lt. Col. L. B. Mobley, 90th Maintenance Group deputy commander. "But in an abnormal situation like this, our people adapted and carefully developed and coordinated procedures to respond safely."

Unlike the Minuteman III missile, which can be removed or installed in one piece, the Peacekeeper is removed and assembled in stages using a specially designed semi-trailer emplacer.



When the first stage of the missile was lifted from the launch facility and moved inside the emplacer,



Photo by Master Sgt. George Randall
Hurey Smith, 90th Missile Maintenance Squadron Heavy Mobile mechanic, is hoisted with a "man-lift" to remove the access panel on the Peacekeeper Missile Stage Emplacer allowing him to inspect Stage 1 of the missile.

hydraulic fluid "began raining down into the launch facility," and the 109,000-pound stage of solid rocket propellant started sliding back down the canister, said Staff Sgt. James Van Valkenburgh, the maintenance crew chief on site.

According to numerous sources, 10 people were working in the launch facility below, and Van Valkenburgh is credited with taking immediate action to control the situation. He commanded the evacuation of all non-essential personnel and talked his hoist operator through corrective measures to stabilize the missile stage and avoid catastrophe.

The emplacer is always positioned directly above the silo and raised to 58 feet, while maintainers follow explicit technical orders to ensure the missile components are removed in a safe, secure and reliable process.

But according to Van Valkenburgh, this kind of hoist failure has never happened with a live stage before.

"There's no tech data that tells you how to respond to a situation like this. Your instinct takes over and you do what you have to do to get everybody safe," he said.

According to Van Valkenburgh, Senior Airman James Clouse, the hoist operator, stayed calm and poised, doing exactly what was required of him

throughout the incident.

"We had 10 people down there, and we had to make sure it didn't fall on them," he said. "We went into a higher drive to pump in more hydraulic fluid than it was leaking, and we were able to control the descent of the first stage and stabilize it. There aren't a lot of 20-year-old kids who could have handled that kind of pressure."

"Anytime an incident like this occurs, the team chief is expected to control the situation to safeguard the personnel and the equipment. The team's response was spectacular, and that can be attributed to their training and professionalism," said Master Sgt. Timothy Carpenter, Peacekeeper Support NCOIC.

A handpicked team of experts from 20th Air Force, Headquarters Air Force Space Command, Ogden Air Logistics Center and Warren personnel developed and coordinated new procedures for repairing the crippled emplacer 60 feet in the air. A follow-on maintenance team and countless support personnel worked around the clock to repair the hoist and complete the deactivation of P-07. The situation was safely resolved within 36 hours.

"Everybody did their job to perfection," said Van Valkenburgh. "And everybody returned home to their families."

37th Helicopter Flight Rescues Injured Hunter

Airman 1st Class Lauren Hasinger
Public Affairs

Three members from the 37th Helicopter Flight and two from the 90th Medical Operations Squadron assisted in the rescue of an injured hunter who was trapped in the Medicine Bow National Forest.

Capt. Ryan Campbell, 37 HF pilot, Lt. Col. Kelly Anderson, 37 HF co-pilot, Senior Airman David Lamica, 37 HF flight engineer, Master Sgt. Paul Nepp and Staff Sgt. Keith Bay, 90 MDOS medical technicians, all came to the rescue of the severely injured man.

According to Maj. Darren Easton, 37 HF director of operations, the hunter, from Bellevue, Neb., was field cleaning an elk when he sliced his leg with a knife. His hunting partner called the authorities about 5:45 p.m. and

gave their coordinates based on a portable global positioning system. However, the GPS wasn't working properly and all the ground crew found was an orange hunting vest, but the hunters were no where to be found, according Lamica. The hunters ended up spending the night in the Hudson Park Wilderness Area of the forest.

The sheriff's department contacted the command post here and asked for support from the 37 HF around 1 a.m.

The UH - 19 Huey was airborne around 7:30 a.m. While 20 minutes out, the ground crew located the survivor half a mile from the orange vest and requested a medical evacuation. After landing, the medical technicians stabilized the injured hunter who experienced excessive bleeding. The crew then flew him to Iverson Memorial Hospital in Laramie, Wyo. where he was treated and released.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Hasinger
Maj. (Dr.) Naili Chen and Staff Sgt. Keith Bay secure and stabilize Jim Vancise prior to airlifting him to an area hospital during a search and rescue exercise Sept. 20. The 37 HF and the WMA work together during SAR operations.

CC, from Page 2

You, the members of the AFSPC team, are responsible for our successes. You have put in long hours, worked hard to accomplish our assigned tasks, and many of you have deployed. During the height of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, we had nearly 1,200 AFSPC personnel

deployed. Today there are still more than 450 people away from home, as well as many others deployed to our missile fields. As the holidays approach, remember your deployed teammates who are bearing the burdens of freedom.

As you look forward to the coming year, re-

member your dedication and expertise are vital to maintaining our role as the best space and missile force the world has ever seen. Beccy and I appreciate your efforts and wish you and yours a joyous holiday season, and most of all a safe and prosperous 2004!

6X5

Celebrating History

Second Lt. Edward Munoz, 321 Missile Squadron, performs native Aztec dancing in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. Munoz dances with a group of dancers from Denver called 'Huitzilopochtli'. Munoz and Huitzilopochtli performed at the Cultural Expo at the Transportation High Bay. Guests dined on authentic hispanic dishes including barbacoa, tomares, arros con pollo, enchiladas and cinnamon crispas.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Nicole Walters

First Year of Peacekeeper Deact a Success

2nd Lt. Jeremy Russell
90th Missile Maintenance Squadron

Oct. 3 marked the one-year anniversary of the first Peacekeeper site to be deactivated. Secretary of the Air Force, Dr. James Roche, made a trip to Warren to witness the start of a three-year deactivation plan starting at site S-07 near Hawk Springs, Wyo., Oct. 3, 2002.

The PK deactivation is the first step of President George W. Bush's goal to reduce the nation's nuclear arsenal from 6,000 warheads to between 1,700 and 2,200. Gen. John Jumper, Air Force Chief of Staff, authorized start of the deactivation process, which officially began Oct. 1, 2002.

A year after PK deactivation started, the personnel assigned to the Peacekeeper flight under the 90th Missile Maintenance Squadron have successfully and safely completed the deactivation of 17 missiles. PK members have successfully completed deactivation of those sites while simultaneously performing system modification upgrades on existing warheads and have kept the rest of the PK force on alert with an amazing

99.09 percent year-to-date alert rate.

Once the PK missile stages are brought back from the field, the work then begins for the missile stage processing facility. It takes about 10 days on base to prepare a PK stage for shipment.

"They have always talked about PK deactivation, but in the back of my mind I never thought it would happen," said Wayne Wheeler, who has worked on ICBM's since the early 1970s. He was also on the first PK test launch at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.

The PK munitions section in the weapons storage area handles all of the re-entry systems once the maintenance technicians bring them back to base. The munitions technicians breakdown the re-entry system to the re-entry vehicles and ready the warheads for shipment to the Department of Energy.

"Disassembling and packaging is really time consuming," said Staff Sgt. Michael Pattin, 90 MMXS Weapons Maintenance team chief. "Not many people have had the experience to work on the Peacekeeper system."

With the laborious deactivation schedule, the PK flight is experiencing a much higher maintenance tempo without having any additional people to complete the job. The PK flight is able to do this by good scheduling practices, superb manpower management and the technical skills of its members.

"It's sad to see such a huge weapon system go away," said Tech. Sgt. Bill Berg. Berg was part of the original team who pulled the Minuteman Missiles out of the silos to convert them to PK sites in the late 1980s.

The deactivation process has not been without a few complications. The PK handling and support equipment worked well over the past 15 years under a normal maintenance workload. With the rigorous deactivation schedule the equipment is used on a daily basis and has caused additional wear and tear on the equipment. There have been two recent incidents when the equipment has become unserviceable. The most recent incident was Sept. 17 when an emplacer hoist started leaking hydraulic fluid while being weight tested on the proof load pit.

“
It's sad to see such a huge weapon system go away”

—Tech. Sgt. Bill Berg

Less than a month earlier, at P-07, there was another incident. While a different emplacer was lifting a 106,000-pound Stage I, the hoist sprung a hydraulic leak causing the Stage I to rapidly settle back down on the Longitudinal Support Assembly.

To add to the success of the deactivation schedule, the logistics movements running back and forth to Hill Air Force Base, Utah, have been on schedule. Due to the limited amount of PK assets that can be stored on base, Hill plays a key role in keeping the deactivation process on schedule.

"I feel lucky to be involved with the Peacekeeper missile system," said Airman 1st Class Joshua Sesock, who graduated from the last-ever PK training class.

The PK deactivation schedule calls for an additional 17 sites in fiscal 2004, and the last 16 sites to be deactivated in fiscal 2005.

Opening Shots of the War

Senior Airman Clifford Stump, 90th Maintenance Squadron, fires a cannon at the start of the remembrance service to signify the terrorist attacks of 9/11. A second volley was fired at the end of the service to signify the continuing war on terrorism.



Photo by Capt. Laura Arellano

Independence Day Celebrated in June

America's Birth Certificate Comes to Cheyenne

1st Lt. Matthew Bates
Public Affairs

Independence Day arrived a month early for citizens of Cheyenne when one of the original copies of the Declaration of Independence went on display at the Wyoming State Museum June 16 and 17.

The document came to Cheyenne after winding its way across America as a part of the Declaration of Independence Road

Trip, a tour intended to bring the "People's Document" to cities and small towns across America. The tour began in September 2002 and will end in November 2004.

July 4, 1776, 200 copies of the newly drafted Declaration of Independence were printed. Twenty-five of the original documents remain, but this is the only one of the original copies that is traveling the country.

In 1989, a flea market

shopper discovered the document behind a tear in a framed picture he bought for \$4. Film producer Norman Lear and his wife, Lyn, purchased the copy in 2000, and started the road trip to bring the document directly to Americans.

"The Declaration of Independence serves as our nation's birth certificate and is a constant reminder of the freedoms that all Americans enjoy," said Mr. Lear. "It is an honor to bring this cherished document to the people of the United States to demonstrate

and highlight the importance of civic engagement for all citizens."

Members from Warren were on hand to welcome the display to Cheyenne in a ceremony at the State Museum in front of the Barrett Building. The base honor guard and Col. Thomas Shearer, 90th Space Wing commander took part in the ceremony.

"The Declaration of Independence embodies what our nation stands for and what our military

“*The Declaration of Independence serves as our nation's birth certificate and is a constant reminder of the freedoms that all Americans enjoy.*”

—Norman Lear

strives to protect,” said Shearer. “It’s a great opportunity to reflect on what it means to be an American and to serve our country.”

6X2.5

Flag Waving Thanks

More than 200 Pioneer Park Elementary School students and faculty assembled outside Warren's front gate waving flags and holding banners Sept. 11 in support of the military, police and firefighters. This is the second year students and faculty have taken the short walk from the school to the base to show their support. The students also formed the letters U.S.A. that could be seen from the air.



Photo courtesy of Pioneer Park Elementary School Staff

6X7

Full Page Ad

Full Page Ad

Warren NCO Hopes her Pain Helps Others

2nd Lt. Nicole Walters
Public Affairs

"Helmet laws suck," stated Staff Sgt. Rebecca Babb, 90th Missile Maintenance Squadron PRP specialist. "That's what the back of my sister's helmet said." Senior Airman Rachel Lange was a reservist at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, and wanted to rejoin the Air Force so she and her husband could be together more. Lange and her husband, Tech. Sgt. Kevin Lange, were in Denver Aug. 2. They were making their way to Sturgis, and would return to Hill with her as an active duty member.

It was shortly after 11 p.m., and Rachel held tight as Kevin drove their Harley-Davidson through the streets of Denver. As Kevin went to make a left turn, he struck an oncoming Chevy Avalanche pick-up truck. Even though they weren't going above 15 mph, both Kevin and Rachel were thrown from the bike. Neither was wearing a helmet.

Because of their different injuries, and other accidents that night, Kevin and Rachel would never be together again. Kevin was taken to St. Anthony's Hospital, where he was listed in a coma with multiple injuries.

"One thing (the doctors) don't tell you is surgery after injuries like these is too traumatic for the body. It swells so much that there are some organs they can't put back in," explained Babb.

Rachel died. She had no broken bones, no external bleeding and minimal abrasions. According to onlookers at the accident, one of the paramedics even yelled, "She has a pulse!" Rachel died due to a head injury she suffered because she wasn't wearing her helmet.

"I had to identify my sister. That was the hardest part," said Babb as she

focused at an empty point on the wall. "It was like she was asleep. She loved to sleep, and I just wanted to shake her and say, 'Wake up!'"

The responsibility to wear a helmet isn't for the rider. It's for the people left behind after the helmetless rider dies.

"I don't think we realize the impact we have on people," continued Babb. "It's like a ripple effect. I'm sure my sister never thought of all the people who would be affected if something happened to her. Of course our parents and myself (were affected), but what about the 19-year-old driver of the truck? He's got to live with this the rest of his life."

Babb understood that ripple effect as she notified Rachel's friends.

"I had to call all of her friends. One of her closest friends hung up on me. She lost it."

Kevin and Rachel had two young boys, Stephen and Austin. "Stephen asked to see where it happened. I took him there, and he found Rachel's key chain in the middle of the intersection. That's when it really hit him. He's having nightmares now."

Because Kevin has not and may not die, the special powers of attorney regarding the children are not effective. Their custody situation remains in limbo.

Lange's previous assignment was



Courtesy photos
Staff Sgt. Rebecca Babb (Center kneeling), and her sister Rachel Lange (Far right with husband Kevin) come from a family of motorcycle enthusiasts. Lack of experience may not have been a factor in the accident, but experience can not help a motorcyclist without a helmet.



A happier time five years ago when Rebecca was Rachel's maid of honor at her wedding.

overseas, and word quickly spread across the Pacific.

"Rachel touched so many lives that people seem to come out of the woodwork with memories and tributes," said Babb. "Her commander even bought her a star on the Star Registry. It's right above the Big Dipper."

While people mourn, bills still have to be paid.

Because Lange was technically a civilian when she died, she didn't have SGLI. The responsibility of the debt now falls to Babb and her parents.

"There are hospital bills, funeral bills, even her credit card bills and house payment," said Babb. "It's a financial nightmare."

Babb is touched by the amount of compassion and support from her Warren family.

"Everyone has been there for me, and Rachel would be touched to know people cared. My commander has been here for me," Babb paused. "Even other shops on base have told their troops about my sister so that her death wasn't in vain."

Babb wants her Warren family to learn from her loss.

"If one person is affected by my sister and what I've been forced to go through, it helps. But I still won't have a sister."



Rebecca on Rachel's motorcycle and Rachel on Kevin's during a Christmas visit.

Warren MMT Reaching for Maroon Beret

Staff Sgt. Kurt Arkenberg
Public Affairs

For four-and-a-half years he worked on one of the most powerful weapon systems in the world. He was part of a deterrent force tasked to respond against aggressors thousands of miles away — one that protected America throughout the Cold War and still does today. By his own account, his job was important. He helped ward off any rogue government or group that might decide to use nuclear weapons against the United States.

But for Senior Airman David Glass, 90th Missile Maintenance Squadron missile maintenance technician, Sept. 11, 2001 changed the way he felt about his life.

"After the (terrorist) attacks, I just felt that I could personally do more for my country," said the Chicago native. "I needed more immediate job satisfaction."

As a first-term airman, Glass was eligible to cross-train into a new career field at the end of his enlistment. It didn't take long for his "dream job" to jump out at him.

He knew he wanted to be closer to the front lines and the "rescue" in pararescue tipped the scales.

"The thought of saving lives certainly is appealing," said Glass. "What more can you do for your country than put your life on the line to save someone else?"

With his future in sight, Glass completed the application process January 2002. The process was slow, with his future in the air until he was selected in January to attend the February Pararescue Indoctrination Course at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

"The year wait was really a blessing for me," said Glass, who used the time to increase his physical strength and stamina. "It gave me time to get myself in

the best shape I could."

His yearlong workout regimen could have turned anyone into a "WarFit Warrior."

Glass worked out six days a week, twice a day — lifting weights, running up to 40 miles and swimming five miles each week.

"When I started this routine, I couldn't swim one lap," said the four-year high school football player and wrestler.

"But I started with one lap, then two and so on.

"I just refused to give up or take it easy while I was working out. There was no way I wanted to get to 'indoc' and wash out because I didn't work hard enough when I was preparing."

Once the indoctrination course started, Glass found that the training was far more than physical.

"The physical aspects were definitely the most grueling," said Glass. "But the classroom curriculum was challenging as well."

That curriculum covered anatomy, decompression, dive physiology and history of pararescue.

In addition to the classroom, Glass and his 87 classmates were pushed to their limits on the ground and in the water. They had six-mile timed runs, during which they had to maintain a seven-minute mile, they had to swim 4,000 meters in 80 minutes, and were taught numerous underwater skills such as knot-tying, rescue

swimming and buddy breathing. All of this while being subjected to constant calisthenics, sleep deprivation and incessant harassment from instructors.

"It's amazing what the body can do if you can get your mind to believe," said Glass. "When you hit your 'wall' physically and an instructor is screaming at you to do five more push-ups to be done, your body can knock out five more to get him out of your face."

Throughout the two-week prep course and the 10-week "indoc course," his class was losing members. Of the 87 who began training with Glass, only

“
What more can you do for your country than put your life on the line to save someone else?”

**—Senior Airman
David Glass**

18 made it through to graduation. Whether it was physical or mental stress, each day brought more empty seats.

"Some of the guys had all the physical skill but nothing upstairs and some were the opposite," said Glass. "I felt like my Air Force experience gave me a head-up with the mental aspects of the training and I could help some of the guys coming straight from basic training keep it in perspective."

After initial training, Glass is being stationed at Kirtland AFB, N.M., for the next 18 months and will receive more training all over the country. Next up is airborne school at Fort Benning, Ga.

"I'm really looking forward to HALOing (high altitude low opening parachute jumps)," said Glass. "But all of the training excites me. I just can't wait to get out there and do my job."

His goals are specific for the short term and fairly general for the long.

"I just want my maroon beret," said the aspiring PJ. "That will signify that I'm a qualified pararescueman. From there, I will just go wherever the war on terror takes me."



Courtesy photo
Trainees must carry this Zodiac throughout their training. It is used to reinforce teamwork and responsibility and must go with the team everywhere and guarded from thieves. If the Zodiac is stolen or lost, the team will be "PT'd to death."

Full Page Ad

Full Page Ad

Mighty Ninety Men and Women of Sports



Photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Hasinger



Courtesy photo



Photo by Jeff Kirkbride



Courtesy photo

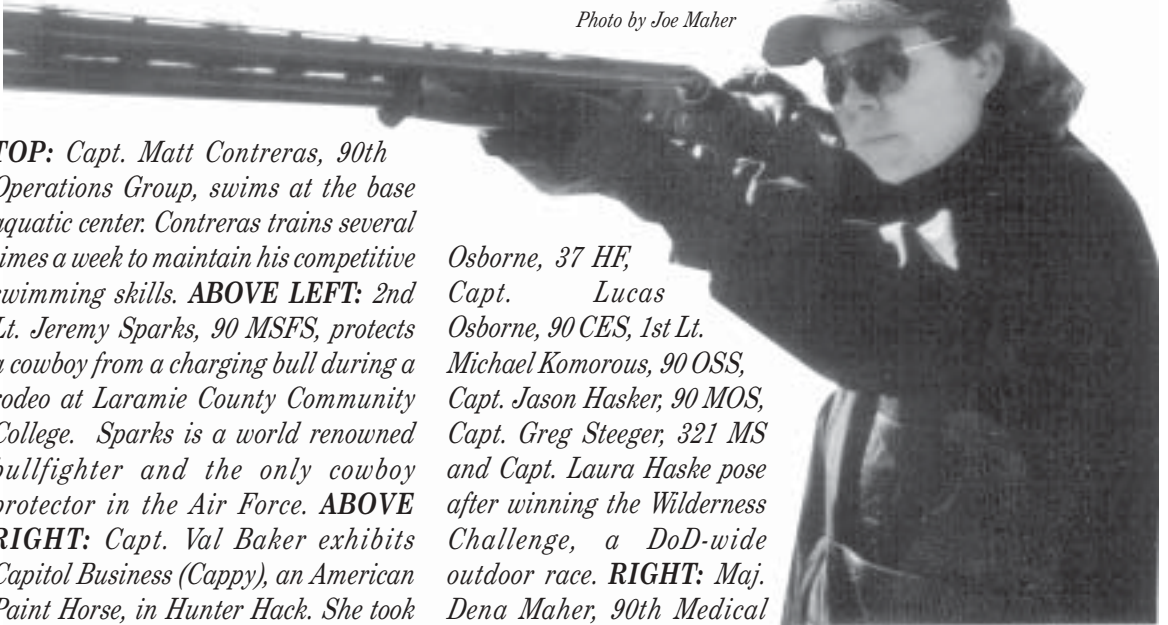


Photo by Joe Maher

TOP: Capt. Matt Contreras, 90th Operations Group, swims at the base aquatic center. Contreras trains several times a week to maintain his competitive swimming skills. **ABOVE LEFT:** 2nd Lt. Jeremy Sparks, 90 MSFS, protects a cowboy from a charging bull during a rodeo at Laramie County Community College. Sparks is a world renowned bullfighter and the only cowboy protector in the Air Force. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Capt. Val Baker exhibits Capitol Business (Cappy), an American Paint Horse, in Hunter Hack. She took 1st in Amateur Steer Stopping in the National Stock Show and Rodeo. **LEFT:** (Left to Right) 1st Lt. Amanda

Osborne, 37 HF, Capt. Lucas Osborne, 90 CES, 1st Lt. Michael Komorous, 90 OSS, Capt. Jason Hasker, 90 MOS, Capt. Greg Steeger, 321 MS and Capt. Laura Haske pose after winning the Wilderness Challenge, a DoD-wide outdoor race. **RIGHT:** Maj. Dena Maher, 90th Medical Operations Squadron bioenvionmental engineer officer, is a regular on the skeet-

shooting circuit through competition in local and national level events.

The Champs of 2003



Photo by Master Sgt. Jeff Bohn



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo



Photo by Joe Kelly



Photo by Joe Kelly



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kurt Arkenberg



Photo by Mike Koval



Courtesy photo

Capt. Geoffrey Mann tees off during the 2003 Air Force Golf Championship held at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. Mann won the tourney.

ABOVE LEFT: A 90th Security Forces Squadron batter blasts a base hit into the outfield during the base intramural softball championship game Aug. 7. 90 SFS outlasted CE 18-15 to win the base championship. **ABOVE:** Staff Sgt. Bob Gauthier, 90th Civil Engineer Squadron, drains a second-half three during the Over-30 Basketball Championships. The

90th Missile Maintenance Squadron beat the 90th Civil Engineer Squadron 49-42 Feb. 5 at Fall Hall Fitness Center. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Tech. Sgt. Andre Hope lays it up and in for two of his five points. The 90th Missile Maintenance Squadron topped the 90th Operations Group 65-57 for the Intramural Basketball Base Championship.

TOP: Corey Miller (Right) knocks off his competition during Warren's arm wrestling contest in May 2002. Miller took two medals home in the 2003 Cowboy State Games Feb. 15, in Casper, Wyo. **ABOVE FAR LEFT:** 1st Lt. Rickie Banister, 319th Missile Squadron, bowls at the base bowling alley. Banister bowls 10 games each day to keep his game sharp, and was crowned the best bowler in the U.S. Armed Forces at the DoD tournament March 20 at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. **ABOVE CENTER:** 1st Lt. Kimberly Walford, 321st Missile Squadron, sets the Open American Deadlift record during a powerlifting competition in San Marcos, Texas. Walford deadlifted 468.25 pounds to beat out 20 women powerlifters at the South West Texas University meet. **ABOVE RIGHT:** The 790th Missile Security Forces Squadron locked up with the 321st Missile Squadron Aug. 21 in the base intramural soccer championship game. With the score tied 2-2 at the end of regulation, the dispute was settled with a shootout. The 790 MSFS won the shootout 3-1 and the base championship 3-2.

Full Page Ad

Give me Your Two Cents

How do you feel Saddam Hussein's capture will affect the moral of the Air Force?



It's the best thing that could happen to our economic stability and the welfare and morale of the active duty members.

Airman David Beebe, 790 MSFS



It will be very uplifting for all the troops and their families. It also brings hope that maybe our troops can come home.

Airman 1st Class Crista Schofield, 90 MSFS



The troops' families back home will rest easier.

Airman 1st Class Justin Koch, 90 CES

Voice your opinion!

Tell the newspaper staff how you feel about the Warren Sentinel's quality

Cut out the survey below and tell us what we do right, what we do wrong and what you'd suggest we do to make the Sentinel better. Then just drop it in a "Holey Joe" and send it to "90 SW/PA." Surveys must be in by Dec. 31 and results will be published in a future issue.

Warren Sentinel

F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming

90th Space Wing – The "Mighty Ninety"

Please check one response for questions 1 through 7

1. How often do you read the **Warren Sentinel**?

☐ Every week ☐ Every two weeks ☐ Once a month ☐ Once every six months ☐ Never
2. Does the **Warren Sentinel** cover the mission adequately?

☐ Always ☐ Most of the time ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never
3. Does the **Warren Sentinel** cover Warren people adequately?

☐ Always ☐ Most of the time ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never
4. Does the **Warren Sentinel** cover Warren units adequately?

☐ Always ☐ Most of the time ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never
5. Does the newspaper print enough photographs?

☐ Always ☐ Most of the time ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never
6. Does the newspaper print enough family news?

☐ Always ☐ Most of the time ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never
7. Does the newspaper print enough Air Force and Air Force Space Command news?

☐ Always ☐ Most of the time ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

Please check all that apply.

8. Why do you read the newspaper?

☐ News ☐ Sports ☐ Features ☐ Commentary ☐ Action Line ☐ Take Note

☐ Community Support ☐ People ☐ Outside the Gate ☐ Other

9. What can we do to improve the **Warren Sentinel**?

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Sentinel Spotlight Falls on Spotlight Winner

The winner of Col. Hoapili's Spotlight Award, Chaplain (1st Lt.) Samuel Gage, 90th Space Wing, sat down with Airman 1st Class Lauren Hasinger to talk about submarines, being a dad and a little science fiction.



with more people like him. What I meant was that I want to work more with people and ministry. With more rank comes less of that and more Public Relations.

Do you think you deserved it?

Col. Witt's was pretty good. He told me that we need to get that thing out of the group. Since the Security Forces Group is so large I'm sort of their own chaplain.

Tell me about your job?

I do mostly counseling, sermon preparations and preaching. I also do some administrative work.

What religion are you affiliated with?

I'm an Independent Baptist. The main motivation is a literal interpretation of the Bible.

What's the best part about your job?

Preaching. Period. Nothing else is close. I preach at the White Chapel Sunday mornings at 11 a.m. Sunday and Wednesday I do an evening bible study.

Has there ever been a day when you didn't want to be a chaplain anymore?

No. The hardest days are when I have to do military things like buddy care or wearing gas masks.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

If I can keep preaching, I'll stay in the Air Force.

Why did you decide to become a military chaplain?

I was prior enlisted in the Navy. The military is like a microcosm where many folks would never go to a civilian church.

What did you do in the Navy?

I was a submarine navigator. It was very, very cool. I roughed it in Hawaii. Apart from Christianity, it was the most amazing thing I've ever been apart of. Six months out of the year I was in a submarine.

What was it like being in a submarine for six months at a time?

Imagine six people in an office space never leaving. You have to remind yourself that you're in a submarine because you get used to it. You lose track of time.

When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

I really always wanted to be a pastor.

What was the last movie you saw in the theater?

'X-Men 2.' I love Sci-Fi.

What is your favorite book?

J.I. Packer's book "Knowing God." It's about attributes of what God is and the necessity of knowing who he is.

Who is your hero?

Mark Minnick, my pastor growing up. His seriousness of Christianity was what made me like him. It was not a part of his life. It was his life.

Was there something that happened to you as a child that influenced your decision to join the military?

No. I'm from a very patriotic family. I joined the Navy to see the world, for schooling and most of all because submarines are fascinating to me. I became a chaplain for the Air Force because of my time in the Navy.

If you could experience any moment in history, what would it be?

I would like to have been there when Christ spoke.

What's the biggest honor you've ever had?

Being a dad. I have a 14-month-old son and one on the way. My wife is due May 15. She's hoping for a girl, but we don't know yet.

What's the most un-chaplain-like thing you do?

Practice for a marathon.

Have you ever run a marathon?

No. That's why I'm always practicing.

You recently won Col. Hoapili's Spotlight Award. Why did you get it?

When he asked me what my desires were, I told him I don't care about rank because I'd have to work

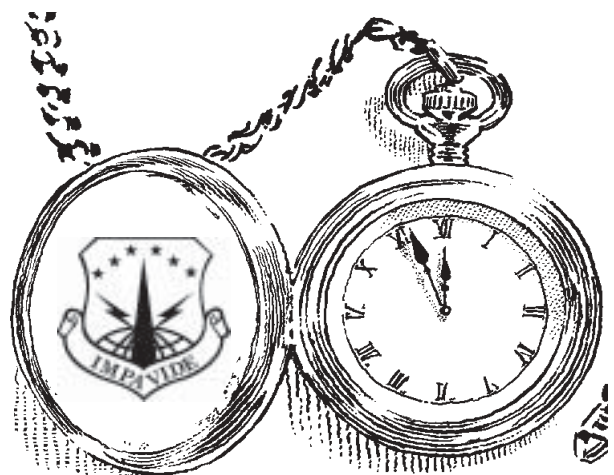




Photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Hasinger

'Drat'

Airman 1st Class John Duane Bishop, 90th Mission Support Group consolidated commander support staff personnelist, gets pelted in the head shortly before he takes down his attacker in an impromptu snow ball fight Dec. 8 in front of Building 232. More than five and a half inches of snow fell during the first big snow fall of the season, according to the National Weather Service. Base activity was limited to mission essential only personnel with non-essentials being released at 2 p.m.

Warren NCO Selected to Attend AFIT

2nd Lt. Nicole Walters
Public Affairs

He comes across as quiet, but endless determination is visible in his eyes. Senior Master Sgt. Michael C. Dawson, 90th Missile Maintenance Squadron, is the first enlisted member from Warren to be selected for the Air Force Institute of Technology. AFIT is so elite only a dozen enlisted members were selected Air Force-wide to earn their master's degree at no cost. Dawson will spend 18 months at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, earning a Master of Logistics Management. "I'm excited but a little nervous," said Dawson. "I've been here for nine years." He incurs

a 3-year commitment and will be reassigned based on the needs of the Air Force. Dawson received an e-mail one day telling about AFIT opportunities. "I thought it was a chance to throw my hat in the ring and see what happened," said Dawson, whose classmates will be primarily officers. "Hopefully I can be a good influence to them and show them what being a senior NCO is all about." Seizing opportunities is old hat for Dawson, who went to school part-time at Park University to get his bachelor's degree with a double major - management/accounting and computer systems. He attended classes in his off-

duty time, and tested out of numerous classes using the College Level Examination Program. "This is historical," said Col. John Faulkner, 90th Maintenance Group commander. "It is the first class to include enlisted members and is an appropriate recognition of the incredible reliance our Air Force has on the professionalism and intellectual power of our non-commissioned officer corps." Faulkner has a deep respect and appreciation for Dawson. "He is a true maintainer, not some dainty college boy or egg-head. He is the essence of maintenance leadership and part of an NCO corps that sets our Air Force apart from every

other in the world." Dawson believes all enlisted members should get an education. "It benefits you in the end," he encouraged. "Take advantage of it. Better education is the pinnacle that shows our value and opportunities." AFIT alumni include Gens. Jimmy Doolittle, Bernard Schriever, and George Kenney. These highly educated leaders benefit the Air Force and Department of Defense by serving in a wide range of technological positions.

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